

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, January 23, 1895, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Parker House, Boston, January 23, 1895. My dear Alec:

Don't you think that you might have sent me a telegram in reply to mine this morning? To be sure we are economizing, but there are times when a little extravagance pays and this is one of them. All alone here, a telegraphic word from you would have been worth a great deal to me. I am sure you always want me to answer your telegrams.

We arrived very comfortably. I am going to send Mr. McCurdy my time table as it may help you coming down. It happened luckily for me that they put a parlor car on the road from Vanceboro to Boston the very day I came on, so we had a comfortable ride and no change of cars between Vanceboro and Boston. We had to turn out prompt at 6 A. M. to be sure, but I went to bed so early the night before that I was quite ready to get up when called.

The first thing I did this morning was to go and see Miss Fuller at the school. I thought that you would like to have me and that it was the best way of showing our sympathy. I thought I knew just where the Horace Mann School was, so I would not take a carriage. I knew that it was on Boylston Street which starting from Tremont near the Y.M.C.A. building ran past Trinity church and the new Public Library, parallel with Beacon and Marlboro. I would therefore take the Back Bay car which if it did not pass the school 2 would come so near it that I should see it. When the car turned to go to Marlboro I got off and then discovered that I had been thinking of Boylston St. all the time, so I walked back three blocks to Berkeley St. and looked up and down it, saw no signs of the school so concluded that it must be the other side of the railway bridge. Walked there, but meeting a postman was directed to go to the other side of Boylston. Walked back past Commonwealth Ave., no signs of the school, met a policeman and asked for further directions. He didn't

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know Horace Mann School and I just wouldn't add "For the deaf", but a driver did and he directed me up a street which I thought he said was Tremont, but when I saw the name Newberry I knew he had meant that, so I walked up that pretty sure that I was right, still to make sure I turned in and consulted a directory and so got there safely. Miss Fuller said she was always quoting my ability to get around alone and my independence so I hope she approved of my wanderings if you don't. They all understood me and I asked five persons all told. Miss Fuller said that she liked my being willing to repeat, that I was never embarrassed. Well I don't mind repeating but I am afraid to ask a stranger to repeat too many times because my experience is that they talk worse the third time, so if I don't hit off the second time it's no use asking again.

Miss Fuller was glad to see me, said there was no hurry about your address. Her niece's death was entirely unexpected, they had no idea that there was any trouble which the baby's birth would not remove. The baby is alive.

Aunt Carrie, Uncle Eustis, Gardiner Scudder, Paul Hubbard, Carrie Blatchford called. Cousin Mary is out of town. Aunt Sarah